minerals in traditional sectors as mentioned above. MECL has diversified its activities in the following areas in the Tenth Five Year Plan:—

(i) Coal Sampling & analysis;

(ii) Ballast stone mining for supply to Railways; and

(iii) Deep drilling for CBM studies on behalf of ONGC and other organizations.

The above activities under diversified programme have been continued/undertaken in the first year of Tenth Plan period.

Proposal for New Aluminium Plant in Andhra Pradesh

2870. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals to set up new aluminium plant in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up Aluminium Plants near bauxite reserves

2871. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the States where largest quantum of bauxite reserve areas are found;

(b) whether Government have taken any step to set up aluminium alumina plants on the basis of the bauxite reserves in such States;

(c) whether private sector companies are also keen to set up bauxite base aluminium alumina plants in those States;